



Pacific Northwest Region
Malheur National Forest
541-575-3000
www.fs.usda.gov/malheur

FIRE UPDATE

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August 14, 2015
9:00 p.m.

Canyon Creek Complex

JOHN DAY, Ore. – Due to the severity of the situation of the Canyon Creek Complex, the Conflagration Act has been enacted and the U.S. Forest Service is receiving assistance from various agencies.

Mason Spring and Berry Creek Fires, making up the **Canyon Creek Complex**, have now grown together for an estimated 22,000 acres. The fire continues to push to the east, as well as to the north down Canyon Creek. An estimated 250 resources from various agencies are actively engaged in structure protection at this time.

Fire crews are doing everything possible with the resources at hand to fight the fires. Firefighter safety, public safety and private property safeguarding is our number one priority.

A Type 1 team has been ordered and is anticipated to arrive and take over management of the fire Sunday. Firefighting resources are depleted at a national level in the west.

Local law enforcement has issued a Level 3 evacuation for the following areas until further notice:

- Adams Drive
- Dog Creek
- Marysville
- Pine Creek

Highway 395 south is expected to remain closed for potential three more days at least due to active fire, hazard trees, and heavy fire fighter traffic.

A Red Cross shelter has been set up at the Mount Vernon Community Hall. Multiple churches are also providing assistance.

Multiply landowners are offering space for livestock, as well as the Grant County Fair Grounds.

Incident 289 on the Prairie City Ranger District in the Lookout Mountain area remained at an estimated 5 acres; crews continue to work on constructing line, and air support.

Fire officials would like to remind visitors that the West Fork Fire is still actively burning in the Murderers Creek Drainage, but poses no threat to lines at this time.

A Joint Information Center is being established at the Malheur National Forest Office. We will continue to provide updated information as we are able.



for the greatest good

NEWS RELEASE

(continued)

Additional information on the Canyon Creek Complex can be found on Inciweb at:

<http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4495/>.

Please be advised of increased fire traffic and smoky conditions throughout the area. Forest Officials ask that the public stay clear of all fire activities.

Fire officials would like to remind everyone that the forest is currently at Industrial Fire Precaution Level (IFPL) III, with Phase B of Public Use Restrictions in effect. Fire Danger Rating for the south half of the forest is VERY HIGH, and the north half is at EXTREME. With this, no firewood cutting is allowed. Campfires are allowed only in a designated recreation sites.

The National Multi-Agency Coordinating Group (NMAC) is increased the National Fire Preparedness Level (PL) to its highest point, PL-5, effective at 5:30 a.m. Mountain Daylight Time on Thursday, August 13. The last time that the National Preparedness Level was raised to 5 was on August 20, 2013. The National Preparedness Level remained at 5 for 7 days until it was dropped to 4 on August 26, 2013. This is the fifth time that PL-5 has been reached in the last ten years.

Additional fire information can be found at JDIDC - BICC sites online at: <http://bicc-jdidc.org/index.shtml>.

For more information on the Malheur National Forest, please visit us at www.fs.usda.gov/malheur, follow [U.S. Forest Service- Malheur National Forest](#) on Facebook, and follow [@MalheurNF](#) on Twitter for all the latest forest news.

To report a fire, contact the John Day Interagency Dispatch Center at 541-575-1321 or the Burns Interagency Communication Center at 541-573-1000.

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